

Message Text

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20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

FEA-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-06 OES-03 ACDA-05 XMB-02 SCCT-01 EA-06

/130 W

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R 161607Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9303

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 913

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 06457

BEIRUT POUCH USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XF

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JULY 15, 1975:

MIDDLE EAST ASPECTS

REFS: (A) EC BRUSSELS 6382

(B) EC BRUSSELS 6426

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1. BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING THE RESTRICTED PORTION OF THE

EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL HELD IN BRUSSELS ON JULY 15 THE MINISTERS CONSIDERED POSSIBLE REACTIONS TO A PROTEST MADE BY THE AMBASSADORS OF ALGERIA, SOMALIA AND IRAQ REGARDING THE RESOLUTION CONDEMNING MIDDLE EAST TERRORISM ADOPTED LAST WEEK BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (SEE REFTEL A). EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE ARAB PROTEST MIGHT ENDANGER THE FORTHCOMING MEETING OF THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS OF THE NINE ARE TO MEET TO CONSIDER POSSIBLE RESPONSES TO BE DELIVERED BEFORE THE END OF THE WEEK. THE MINISTERS ALSO BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE US REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FOR EGYPT AND REFERRED THE MATTER TO THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. ARAB PROTEST RE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT RESOLUTION: THE AMBASSADORS OF IRAQ, SOMALIA AND ALGERIA MET WITH THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR (REPRESENTING THE EC COUNCIL PRESIDENCY) ON JULY 14 AND WITH EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI ON JULY 15. THE AMBASSADORS CONDEMNED, REPORTEDLY IN VERY STRONG TERMS, THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED LAST WEEK BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ON MIDDLE EAST TERRORISM. FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING WITH ORTOLI THE AMBASSADORS HELD AN IMPROMPTU PRESS BRIEFING WHERE THEY CHARACTERIZED THE PARLIAMENT'S ACTION AS "VIOLATING ALL TRUE RESPONSIBILITY."

3. REPORTING THE ARAB DEMARCHE TO THE EC COUNCIL, ORTOLI EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE SITUATION MIGHT CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO THE JULY 21-24 MEETING IN ROME UNDER THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. HE URGED THE MINISTERS TO RESPOND TO THE PROTEST, BUT OPPOSED MAKING THE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE PUBLIC. ORTOLI REPORTEDLY SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD MAKE REFERENCE TO ITS NOVEMBER 1973 STATEMENT BY THE NINE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND TO APPROPRIATE UN RESOLUTIONS. IN ADDITION HE SUGGESTED THE COUNCIL POINT OUT TO THE AMBASSADORS THAT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WAS AN INSTITUTION INDEPENDENT OF THE EC COMMISSION OR THE EC COUNCIL AND, AS SUCH, WAS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS OWN ACTIONS.

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4. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS OF THE EC ARE TO MEET TO CONSIDER THE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE WHICH IS LIKELY TO BE MADE THIS WEEK. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER THE RESPONSE WILL BE ALONG THE LINES OF ORTOLI'S SUGGESTIONS. SOURCES HERE BELIEVE THAT SOME RESPONSE WILL BE MADE, HOWEVER, IF ONLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID HAVING A POLITICAL PROBLEM ON THE TABLE BEFORE THE

EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE SESSION CONVENES IN ROME.

5. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT: THE ITALIANS INFORMED THE COUNCIL OF THE REVISED FIGURES REPORTEDLY PROVIDED BY THE US IN CONNECTION WITH THE REQUEST FOR EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR EGYPT. THE DUTCH NOTED THAT THE COMMUNITY WAS EXPECTED TO MAKE UP ANY SHORT-FALL IN THE JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION AND, ON THIS BASIS, THEY WISHED TO CONSIDER THE MATTER FURTHER. THE DUTCH REPRESENTATIVE POINTED OUT THAT THEY WERE IN THE PROCESS OF GIVING ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT VIA THE UNDP. THE ENTIRE SUBJECT WAS REFERRED TO THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION.

6. OUR SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION PRIOR TO THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN BRUSSELS ON JULY 22. GREENWALD

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